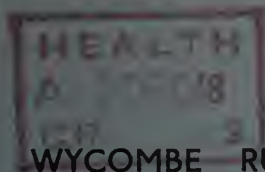


44-4 (3) WYCOMBE
LIBRARY



WYCOMBE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Sanitary Inspectors

For the Year 1947

Wycombe

Rural District Council

1947

Chairman:

Mr. G. C. TEW.

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. G. T. CANTLE-BEAUMONT.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

At 1st May, 1947.

Chairman:

Mr. W. G. Britnell.

The Chairman of the Council.	The Vice-Chairman of the Council.
Mr. S. B. Biggs.	
Mr. G. W. Bushby.	Mr. E. G. Pusey.
Miss M. M. J. Couper.	Mr. G. C. Reynolds.
Brig.-Gen. E. S. Hoare-Nairne.	Mrs. M. Roach.
	Mr. G. Sherwin.
Mr. G. B. Lee.	Mr. O'Hara Taylor.
Mr. L. G. Lunnon.	Miss M. Towerton.
Rev. C. Martin.	Mrs. D. M. Walker.
Major T. M. McGown.	Mr. E. J. West.
Mr. F. G. Moreton.	Mr. F. Willis.
Mr. J. Pearce.	Mr. S. C. Wood.
Mrs. C. Oakeshott.	Mrs. M. G. Woollerton.
Mrs. E. Pick.	Mr. G. Yates.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, Etc.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

FRANCIS H. P. WILLS.

Appointed 1st April, 1923. Telephone No. Marlow 47.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Walter A. E. Tanner, A.R.San.I.	Senior Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor, No. 2 District (Princes Risborough). Water Engineer. Appointed 1927.
John P. Perry, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.	Sanitary Inspector and Build- ing Surveyor No. 1 District (Wycombe). Appointed 1931.
Dennis J. Sullivan, M.S.I.A.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector. Appointed 1938.
Stanley A. Latimer.	Draughtsman and Certificated Assistant Sanitary Inspector. Appointed 1938.
Thomas Lawson, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector. Appointed 1947.

Clerks:

Miss R. M. Spencer.

Miss M. J. M. Thornton.

*Mr. L. Petts.

OFFICES AND COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL:—

17, High Street, HIGH WYCOMBE.

Telephone No.: High Wycombe 1030.

(*Serving with H.M. Forces).

Wycombe Rural District Council
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
1947

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WYCOMBE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
17, High Street,
High Wycombe.

June, 1948.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you this my twenty-fifth, and owing to my retirement from your Council's service, my last annual report.

My thanks, Mr. Chairman, are due to you and to all the members of the Council for the help and support you have given during the years of my office. I have pleasure in placing on record once again my appreciation of the work of the staff of the Public Health Department which has, as always, been most satisfactory.

The report has been compiled in accordance with those sections of the Ministry of Health's circular 130/47 relevant to the district.

The maternal mortality and infant mortality rate were both satisfactory, and the incidence of infectious disease very low.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS H. P. WILLS,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Old House,
Marlow,
Bucks.

Statistics

Area of the Wycombe Rural District (in Acres)	71,232
Resident Population (Census 1931)	27,495
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid year, 1947	36,651
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1947) according to Rate Books	10,437
Rateable Value	£212,791
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£842.0.0

EXTRACTS from VITAL STATISTICS of the Year.

Births.		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live	Births—Legitimate	664	332	332
	Illegitimate	36	17	19
		<hr/> 700	<hr/> 349	<hr/> 351
Still	Births—Legitimate	16	8	8
	Illegitimate	3	2	1
		<hr/> 19	<hr/> 10	<hr/> 9

The Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 19.09
England and Wales 20.5

DEATHS :— Males — 204. Females — 202. Total 406

The Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 11.07

England and Wales 12.0

Wycombe R.D.C. Phthisis41

Number of women dying in consequence of childbirth. Deaths:

(a) From puerperal sepsis 0

(b) From other puerperal causes 0

INFANT MORTALITY—19 infants died under the age of one year.

Legitimate 12 males 5 females

Illegitimate	1 male	1 female
--------------------	--------	----------

13

This represents a mortality of 27.1 as compared with that of England and Wales of 41 per 1,000.

The 19 deaths were attributable to the following :—

Premature births	3
Infant Diseases	} 8
Birth Injuries	
Congenital malformations	
Other defined diseases	8

CANCER

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	35	34	69
as compared with	32	34	66 in 1946
” ” ”	40	31	71 in 1945
” ” ”	28	34	62 in 1944

The following organs were affected :—

Breast	5
Buc. cav. and œsophagus	3
Uterus	2
Stomach and duodenum	14
All other sites	45

Table of Deaths (All causes)

	Males.	Females.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	1	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	7	8
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9. Influenza	1	—
10. Measles	1	—
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio encephalitis..	—	—
12. Acute Inf. encephalitis	—	—

13. Cancer of the buc. cav. and oesophagus (M)	3	-
uterus (F)	-	2
14. Cancer of the stomach and duodenum	8	6
15. Cancer of the Breast	-	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	24	21
17. Diabetes	1	4
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	19	29
19. Heart Diseases	54	54
20. Other disease of the circulatory system	10	7
21. Bronchitis	11	10
22. Pneumonia	7	9
23. Other respiratory diseases	4	1
24. Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum	3	-
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	1
26. Appendicitis	-	-
27. Other digestive diseases	3	8
28. Nephritis	8	6
29. Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	1
31. Premature Birth	1	2
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile diseases	5	3
33. Suicide	6	3
34. Road traffic accidents	5	-
35. Other violent causes	6	5
36. All other causes	16	17

TABLE 1. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS), 1947.

	Total cases notified.	Patients admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	30	29	-
Diphtheria	2	2	-
Enteric Fever (including Para- typhoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	2	16
Erysipelas	8	2	-
Poliomyelitis	3	3	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE 2. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

The following particulars relate to new cases of tuberculosis and of all the deaths from the disease during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	4	3	—	1	1	2	—	—
35	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—
TOTAL	9	11	2	3	7	8	—	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In 1947 there was a further decline in the incidence of diphtheria and scarlet fever.

During the year only 2 cases of diphtheria and 30 cases of scarlet fever were notified.

Diphtheria — Two cases of diphtheria were notified both the patients being children under ten years of age.

Scarlet Fever. — The thirty cases of scarlet fever were distributed throughout the district and twenty-nine cases were removed to hospital.

In addition to the foregoing, 3 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis and 2 cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis were notified.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The percentage of children immunised at the end of the year is as follows :—

Under 5 years — 97.2%.

Between 5 and 15 years — 96.3%.

The work of the County Medical Officer of Health and his staff, together with the assistance of the School Head Teachers, have contributed to this satisfactory result being obtained.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The following ambulance facilities are available in the area of the Wycombe Rural District Council :—

(a) For Infectious Cases—

An ambulance is supplied by the Wycombe and District Joint Hospital Board for service in the Borough of High Wycombe, and the Urban Districts of Beaconsfield and Marlow, and the Rural District of Wycombe. The facilities are adequate for the areas served.

(b) For Non-Infectious Cases—

Ambulances are kept at Bourne End and Princes Risborough and are also available from the adjoining Boroughs of High Wycombe, Aylesbury and Henley-on-Thames and the Urban District of Marlow.

For normal needs the above facilities are reasonably sufficient.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological and other examinations are carried out on behalf of the Council by the Camberwell Research Laboratory, Denmark Hill, S.E.5, and the Clinical Research Association, Adelphi, London.

Excellent facilities are also available for the examination of throat swabs, sputa, blood samples and other pathological specimens for bacteriological reports at the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the district during the year. The Council's water undertaking supplies the parishes of Stokenchurch, Radnage and part of the parish of Bledlow-cum-Saunderton. The rest of the district is covered by various Water Companies and the Borough of High Wycombe Water Department. The water is

generally treated by chlorination. Bacteriological and chemical analysis show no sign of pollution or contamination.

The following details show the number of houses and the population supplied from public water mains direct to houses in each parish. There are no public standpipes fitted.

Parish.	No. of Houses with piped water supply direct.	Population supplied.
Bledlow-cum-Saunderton	270	1,210
Bradenham	20	65
Ellesborough	150	590
Fawley	42	160
Fingest	307	1,378
Hambleden	190	580
Great and Little Hampden	40	135
Hedsor	20	68
Hughenden	858	3,832
Ibstone	45	185
Great and Little Kimble	116	515
Lacey Green and Speen	138	590
Great Marlow	295	1,215
Little Marlow	190	785
Medmenham	35	150
Radnage	95	425
Princes Risborough	690	3,120
Stokenchurch	480	1,925
Turville	50	190
Wooburn	1,385	5,950
Chepping Wycombe Rural	1,465	6,560
West Wycombe Rural	396	1,600
Totals	7,277	31,228

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year an extension of sewers has been carried out at Naphill, in the parish of Hughenden, and thereby 28 properties provided with main drainage

Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1947

GENERAL

	District	
	No. 1.	No. 2.
Number of General Inspections and re-inspections	1,272	615
Inspections and visits under the Housing Act, 1936 and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and visits to houses previously inspected but works not completed	549	223
Inspections and visits under Housing Act, 1936, (Part 4—overcrowding)	21	10
Inspections under Public Health Act, 1936	157	151
Number of Interviews with owners in respect of Housing Repairs, Plans and Specifications for reconditioning dwelling houses	135	92

WORKS EXECUTED AS A RESULT OF NOTICES.

Dwelling house roofs repaired	44	16
" " eaves gutters repaired or provided where missing	17	12
" " brickwork to walls, chimney stacks etc., made good	16	5
" " woodwork to windows repaired ...	19	6
" " interior plaster made good	28	11
" " windows made to open for the purpose of ventilation	9	1
" " woodwork to stairs, floors, etc., made good	22	3
" " dampness remedied	37	10
" " interior walls cleansed and re- decorated	8	3
" " cooking arrangements, etc., ren- dered serviceable	34	15
" " outbuildings repaired	6	—
Miscellaneous works	36	—
Dwelling house drains cleansed, ventilated or made sound	30	—
" " new drainage system provided ...	3	4
" " new cesspools provided	5	3
E.C.'s or privies converted to W.C.'s	4	—
Closets repaired	10	—
New W.C.'s constructed	4	—
House sinks provided	5	—
Sanitary ashbins provided	7	1
Manure accumulation nuisances abated	4	—
Animal nuisances abated	8	—
Yards paved and drained	6	—

VARIOUS.

Number of visits made to infected houses	51	12
„ „ investigations, schools, etc., re infectious cases	62	—
„ „ houses disinfected	45	10
„ „ houses disinfested	2	—
„ „ inspections of moveable dwellings ...	59	3
„ „ inspections of petroleum stores	22	56
„ „ Petroleum licences issued	28	33

BUILDINGS

Total number of plans submitted	252	237
Plans for dwelling houses	49	54
„ „ additions to dwelling houses	37	47
„ „ factory buildings	14	5
„ „ other buildings (garages, etc.)	122	106
„ „ house drainage, etc.	14	18
„ „ layouts of land	16	7
Number of letters, Approval and Building Notices and Certificates	1,123	960

SUMMARY OF INFORMAL NOTICES AND RESULTS OF SAME.

Article 27 of the Sanitary Officer's (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1936, in relation to Inspections and Notices etc.

Acts and Sections under which Notices were served.	No. of Informal Notices and Letters.	Complied with.	Not complied with.
P.H.A., 1936, Sec. 92 (1) (a)	87	62	25
„ „ „ 259	2	2	—
„ „ „ 92 (1) (b)	3	3	—
„ „ „ 92 (1) (c)	5	5	—
„ „ „ 39	14	13	1
„ „ „ 44-45	6	5	1
„ „ „ 75	7	5	2
„ „ „ 56	3	3	—
„ „ „ 141	2	2	—
„ „ „ 39 (1) (b)	29	24	5
„ „ „ 39 (1) (d)	2	2	—
„ „ „ 138	14	10	4
Housing Acts and Regulations	27	19	8
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	66	59	7
Totals	267	214	53

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES AND RESULTS OF SAME.

Acts and Sections under which Notices were served.	No. of Notices	Com- plied with.	Work in progress at end of year.	Notices not complied with.	Prosecu- tions.
P.H.A., 1936, Sec. 92 (1) (a) ...	25	18	3	4	—
" " " 259	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 92 (1) (b) ...	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 92 (1) (c) ...	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 39	1	1	—	—	—
" " " 44-45	1	1	—	—	—
" " " 75	2	2	—	—	—
" " " 56	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 141	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 39 (1) (b) ...	5	3	1	1	—
" " " 39 (1) (d) ...	—	—	—	—	—
" " " 138	4	3	1	—	—
Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9	8	—	—	8	—
" " " " 10	—	—	—	—	—
" " " " 11	—	—	—	—	—
" " " " 13	—	—	—	—	—
" " " " 16	—	—	—	—	—
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 ...	7	4	2	1	—
Totals ...	53	32	7	14	—

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The survey of the rural housing conditions recommended by the Hobhouse Committee and asked for by the Ministry of Health in Circular 64/44 is continuing. The continued shortage of building labour and materials and the restrictions imposed by Civil Building Control regulations have necessitated your Council embarking on a policy of enforcing the carrying out of urgent repairs to the greatest number of houses, rather than concentrating building labour and material on the reconditioning to a high standard of a comparatively small number of houses.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING, 1947.

Parish.	Gallons of Sewage removed.
Bledlow-cum-Saunderton	714,690
Bradenham	21,500
Chepping Wycombe Rural	3,431,835
Ellesborough	408,900
Fawley	44,250
Fingest	1,187,575
Hambleden	410,800
Hampden, Great and Little	24,750

Hughenden	4,415,700
Ibstone	306,400
Kimble, Great and Little	371,455
Lacey Green	592,745
Longwick-cum-Illmire	220,740
Marlow, Great	318,025
Marlow, Little	245,390
Medmenham	148,950
Princes Risborough	146,095
Radnage	284,265
Stokenchurch	2,002,045
Turville	176,700
Wooburn	4,331,655
West Wycombe Rural	775,350
Total	20,579,815

1946 Total Gallons — 18,941,860

Annual Report for the year 1947 for the Rural District of Wycombe in the County of Buckinghamshire, on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS MADE FOR PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspection.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	49	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies—				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	124	107	27	—
(b) Others	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act, (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	147	156	31	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspec- tor.	By H.M. Inspec- tor.	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	15	15	—	6	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	12	12	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home- work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	31	31	—	12	—

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work.	Section 110.			Section 111.		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of Prosecu- tions. for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecu- tions
Lace, lace curtains and nets	31	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	2	—	—	2	—	—
Total	33	—	—	2	—	—

FOOD SUPPLIES.

No. 1 and No. 2 Districts.

Meat surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

Ox, Bullock Cow—	lbs.
Carcase or portions of carcase	340
Liver	31 $\frac{3}{4}$
Head and Tongue	20
Pig—	
Bacon	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheep—	
Carcase or portions of carcase	30
Other Foods—	
Canned Corned Beef	741 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned Sausage Meat	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Spam	12
Canned Salmon	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Sardines	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Pilchards	143
Canned Steak	36
Canned Beans	8
Canned Peas	2
Canned Tomatoes	130
Canned Beetroot	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Evaporated Milk	120 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Condensed Milk	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Apricots	2
Canned Marmalade	4
Sugar	14
Cheese	33 $\frac{1}{2}$
Biscuits	15

MILK SUPPLIES

Farms and dairies have received careful inspection. On the whole the premises were found to be maintained in good condition and milk producers willing to co-operate in order to produce milk of a good quality. During the year three new cowsheds have been erected and twelve cowsheds re-modelled.

BAKEHOUSES

There is no change in the number of bakehouses on the register during the year. Limewashing has been carried out where necessary and washing facilities improved at two of the premises. The cleanliness of the utensils and the handling of the foodstuffs have continued to be satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

The restriction on slaughtering introduced at the outbreak of war by the Ministry of Food is still in force, and the home killed meat allocated for the Wycombe Rural Area, is from animals killed in a slaughterhouse situated in an adjoining district. The butcher's shops in your Council's area are regularly visited and the meat inspected.

Rainfall, 1947

Professor Geo. E. Gask, "Hatchmans," Hambleden, has again favoured me with particulars of recorded rainfall during the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Month.	Annual Rain-fall.	No. of days on which rain fell with .01 or more measured.	Largest Rainfall.	
			Date.	Amount.
January	2.35	17	12th	.50
February	1.41	9	3rd	.32
March	5.75	24	12th	.83
April	2.10	15	23rd	.42
May	1.69	13	4th	.47
June	1.73	11	21st	.50
July	3.07	11	18th	1.68
August	0.36	3	4th	.32
September	1.19	11	17th	.30
October	0.42	5	22nd	.33
November	1.54	14	9th	.32
December	2.69	16	4th	.50
Totals	24.30	149		